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DATE TIME GROUP

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MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

SOURCE REF:

ROUTING

1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

(3)

ITEM NO: 3

DATE: 17 JULY 1974

SUBJECT: NEW JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER

THE NEW JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER, TOSHIO KIMURA, WILL BRING A CHANGE IN STYLE, RATHER THAN SUBSTANCE, TO JAPANESE FOREIGN POLICY. HE IS MORE OUTGOING AND ARTICULATE THAN HIS PREDECESSOR, OHIRA. HIS LONG-TIME CONNECTIONS WITH FORMER PRIME MINISTER SATO SHOULD NOT HURT HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH PEKING; IN FACT, HE HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN EFFORTS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH PEKING. AT THE SAME TIME, HE SHOULD BE QUITE ACCEPTABLE TO TAIWAN. HE DOES NOT APPEAR TO WANT TO DIVERGE FROM PRESENT POLICY TOWARD THE US.

AN AMBITIOUS POLITICAN, KIMURA HAS LONG WANTED TO BE FOREIGN MINISTER.

DATE:

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RELEASING OFFICER

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FORM

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